



State of Washington  
**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504-3200 • (360) 902-2200 • TDD (360) 902-2207  
Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA

**DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)**

**Name of Proposal:** DNS 18-006: OAK CREEK WILDLIFE AREA FENCE REPLACEMENT

**Description of Proposal:**

WDFW is proposing to complete a fence maintenance project on a perimeter elk fence, located on the Cowiche Unit of Oak Creek Wildlife Area. The existing elk fencing has become unserviceable and wildlife personnel find it increasingly difficult to maintain the fence integrity. The total length of fence to be maintained is approximately 3.37 miles. The project proposes to replace the existing fence with new posts and wire material equivalent to the existing. This will occur in the same location and same footprint as the existing fence. The existing fence is eight feet tall and will remain the same height. Wood posts will be replaced with steel posts, either driven or drilled into the ground. The fence crosses over the South Fork of Cowiche Creek, which can be accessed by vehicle bridge; equipment will not need to cross through the creek. There are three seasonal runoff channels that the fence crosses over and will need to be maintained. Equipment will need to cross over these channels, ideally when the channels are dry.

**Proponent/Applicant:** Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)  
Contact: Anna Sample  
600 Capitol Way N  
Olympia, WA 98501  
(360) 902-8429  
[AnnaMarie.Sample@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:AnnaMarie.Sample@dfw.wa.gov)

**Location of Proposal, including street, if any:** 2751 Cowiche Mill Rd., Cowiche, Yakima County, Washington:

Township 13N, Range 17E, Section 7;  
Township 13N, Range 16E, Sections 1 and 12; and  
Township 14N, Range 16E, Section 36.

**Lead Agency:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

WDFW has determined that this proposal will likely not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. Therefore, state law<sup>1</sup> does not require an environmental impact statement (EIS). WDFW made this determination of nonsignificance (DNS) after we reviewed the environmental checklist and other information on file with us.

We issued this DNS according to state rules.<sup>2</sup> We will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date we issued the DNS. Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on this proposal or DNS. We must receive your comments within 14 days of the date of this letter. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on February 20, 2018**.

**Method of Comment:** The following procedures shall govern the method to comment on

agency SEPA proposals. Comments received through these procedures are part of the official SEPA record for this proposal.

You can submit your comments any one of the following ways:

- Email to [SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov)
- Online at the WDFW SEPA website comment link at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/>
- Fax to (360) 902-2946;
- Mail to the address below.

**Responsible Official:** Lisa Wood

**Position/Title:** SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Habitat Program, Protection Division

**Address:** P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504-3200

After the comment period closes, applicants may view the updated status of this proposal on the WDFW SEPA website: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/>. Once the status is posted as final, applicants and permittees may take action on the proposal. When a proposal is modified or withdrawn, notice will be given in accordance with state law.<sup>1</sup>

If you have questions about this DNS or the details of the proposal, contact Lisa Wood at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call her at (360) 902-2260.

**DATE OF ISSUE:** February 5, 2018

**SIGNATURE:**



Footnotes

1. RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c)
2. WAC 197-11-340(2).

SEPA Log Number: 18-006.dns